

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1                   1.       (Currently amended): A method of storing information in a data storage  
2 system for continuous recording comprising a plurality of storage devices, each of which  
3 includes both a temporary storage area and an ordinary recording area, the method comprising:  
4                   receiving said information;  
5                   writing a first part of said information to a temporary storage area of a first  
6 storage device ~~in a plurality of~~ among said storage devices;  
7                   during said writing to said first storage device, placing a second storage device  
8 among said storage devices in said plurality of storage devices in a state where it is ready to  
9 record a second part of said information;  
10                  writing said second part of said information to a temporary storage area of said  
11 second storage device, including ceasing writing of said first part of said information to said first  
12 storage device; and  
13                  subsequent to commencement of writing said second part of said information to  
14 said second storage device, placing said first storage device in a stopped state,  
15                  whereby said information is continuously recorded to said temporary storage  
16 areas.

1                   2.       (Currently amended): The method of claim 1 further including  
2 determining whether said second storage device can be placed in a state where it is ready to  
3 record said second part of said information and if not, then:  
4                   during said writing to said first storage device, placing a third storage device ~~in~~  
5 ~~said plurality of~~ among said storage devices in a state where it is ready to record said second part  
6 of said information;

7 writing said second part of said information to said third storage device when it is  
8 ready to record said second part of said information, including ceasing writing of said first part  
9 of said information to said first storage device; and  
10 subsequent to commencement of writing said second part of said information to  
11 said third storage device, placing said first storage device in a stopped state.

1 3. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said stopped state is a state in  
2 which a read write head of said first storage device is in an unloaded position.

1 4. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said stopped state is a state in  
2 which a rotating member of said first storage device is not rotating.

5. (Canceled)

1 6. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storage devices include  
2 magnetic disk devices or optical disk devices.

1 7. (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein said storage devices are  
2 written in a ring structure manner wherein after writing to a last one of said storage devices,  
3 returning to said first storage device and overwriting information previously written thereto.

1 8. (Original): The method of claim 1 further including recording to a third  
2 storage device that is separate from said plurality of storage devices, said recording including  
3 writing said received information to said third storage device or copying information stored in  
4 said first or second storage devices to said third storage device.

1 9. (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein said third storage device is  
2 removable.

10. (Canceled)

1 11. (Original): The method of claim 8 wherein said third storage device is a  
2 magnetic disk, an optical disk, a magneto-optical disk, or a magnetic tape drive.

1                   12.   (Currently amended): An information storage system for continuous  
2 recording comprising:  
3                   a plurality of storage devices, each of which includes both a temporary storage  
4 area and an ordinary recording area; and  
5                   a controller operatively coupled to said storage devices and configured to record  
6 information on said storage devices,  
7                   said controller configured to perform first write operations on a first part of said  
8 information to a temporary area of a first storage device of said storage devices,  
9                   said controller configured to perform second write operations of a second part of  
10 said information to a temporary area of a second storage device of said storage devices,  
11 including, during said first write operations, placing said second storage device in a state where it  
12 is ready to record information,  
13                   said controller further configured to cease said first writing operations upon  
14 commencing said second write operations,  
15                   said controller further configured to place said first storage device in a stopped  
16 state after commencing said second write operations, said stopped state,  
17                   whereby said information is continuously recorded to said temporary storage  
18 areas.

1                   13.   (Currently amended): The system of claim 12 wherein said controller is  
2 further configured to determine whether said second storage device can be placed in a state  
3 where it is ready to record said second part of said information and if not, then to perform second  
4 write operations of said second part of said information to a third storage device of said storage  
5 devices, including, during said first write operations, placing said third storage device in a state  
6 where it is ready to record said second part of said information, and to place said first storage  
7 device in a stopped state after commencing said second write operations to said third storage  
8 device.

1                   14.     (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein each of said storage devices  
2 includes a read write head, said stopped state being a state in which said read write head is in an  
3 unloaded position.

1                   15.     (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein each of said storage devices  
2 includes a rotating member, said stopped state being a state in which said rotating member is not  
3 rotating.

16.     (Canceled)

1                   17.     (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein said storage devices are  
2 magnetic disk devices or optical disk devices.

1                   18.     (Original): The system of claim 12 wherein said storage devices are  
2 arranged in a ring buffer configuration, such that said information is written successively to each  
3 of said first through N<sup>th</sup> storage devices, where N is the number of said storage devices, and upon  
4 writing to said N<sup>th</sup> storage device, returning to said first storage device in a subsequent write  
5 operation.

1                   19.     (Original): The system of claim 12 further including a third storage device  
2 that is separate from said plurality of storage devices, said controller further configured to write  
3 information to said third storage device, said information being said information to be recorded  
4 or information copied from one of said storage devices.

1                   20.     (Original): The system of claim 19 wherein said third storage device is a  
2 removable medium.

1                   21.     (Original): The system of claim 19 wherein said third storage device is a  
2 magnetic disk, an optical disk, a magneto-optical disk, or a magnetic tape drive.

22-34. (Canceled)

1                   35.     (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 40 wherein each of said  
2 storage devices includes a read write head, said stopped state is a state in which said read write  
3 head is in an unloaded position.

1                   36.     (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 40 wherein each of said  
2 storage devices includes a rotating member, said stopped state is a state in which said rotating  
3 member is not rotating.

1                   37.     (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 40 wherein each of said  
2 storage devices includes a rotating member, said stopped state is a state in which said rotating  
3 member is not rotating.

1                   38.     (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 40 wherein said storage  
2 devices are magnetic disk devices or optical disk devices.

1                   39.     (Currently amended): The system of claim ~~[[33]]~~ 40 wherein said storage  
2 devices are arranged in a ring buffer configuration, such that said audio-visual information is  
3 written successively to each of said first through N<sup>th</sup> storage devices, where N is the number of  
4 said storage devices, and upon writing to said N<sup>th</sup> storage device, returning to said first storage  
5 device in a subsequent write operation.

1                   40.     (Currently amended): ~~The system of claim 33~~ An audio-visual  
2 information storage system comprising:  
3                   a plurality of storage devices; and  
4                   a controller operatively coupled to said storage devices,  
5                   said controller configured to receive audio-visual information containing audio  
6 content, visual content, or audio-visual content to be stored in said storage devices,  
7                   said controller configured to perform first write operations of said audio-visual  
8 information to a first of said storage devices.

9                    said controller configured to perform second write operations of said audio-visual  
10 information to a second of said storage devices, including, during said first write operations,  
11 placing said second storage device in a state ready to record said audio-visual information,  
12                    said controller configured to place said first storage device in a stopped state  
13 subsequent to commencement of said second write operations,  
14                    said controller configured to read out audio-visual information contained in one of  
15 said storage devices during said first or second writing operations, including placing said one of  
16 said storage devices in a state so that said audio-visual information can be read therefrom,  
17                    said storage devices further including a third storage device that is separate from  
18 said plurality of storage devices, said controller further configured to write said audio-visual  
19 information to said third storage device, said audio-visual information being said information to  
20 be recorded or information copied from said storage devices.

1                    41.     (Original): The system of claim 40 wherein said third storage device is a  
2 removable medium.

1                    42.     (Original): The system of claim 40 wherein said third storage device is a  
2 magnetic disk, an optical disk, a magneto-optical disk, or a magnetic tape drive.

43.     (Canceled)